

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-05 ERDA-05 AF-06 ARA-06 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NASA-01

NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02 PA-01 PRS-01

OES-03 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 /115 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4235

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 6159

FOR ACDA AND IO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, UN

SUBJ: UNGA DISARMAMENT: CONSULTATIONS ON SEABED ARMS CONTROL
TREATY REVIEW CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 258974

1. AT NOVEMBER 17 MEETING AMONG ALLEN (UK), ROSHCIN (USSR),
AND MARTIN (US), AS REPRESENTATIVES OF DEPOSITARY POWERS OF
SEABED ARMS CONTROL TREATY, ALLEN REPORTED ON HIS CONSULTATIONS
WITH BJORNERSTEDT (SECRETARIAT) CONCERNING ADMINISTRATIVE
REQUIREMENTS FOR REVIEW CONFERENCE. ALLEN SAID THE
SECRETARIAT SHOULD BE ABLE TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY
ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FOR A TWO-WEEK CONFERENCE IN GENEVA.
THE MOST CONVENIENT AND ECONOMIC TIME FOR THE CONFERENCE
WOULD BE LATE AUGUST AND EARLY SEPTEMBER 1977. (MAY
AND JUNE WOULD BE DIFFICULT BECAUSE OF SCHEDULED WHO AND ILO
ASSEMBLIES IN GENEVA.) THE SECRETARIAT CONSIDERS
JANUARY OR FEBRUARY 1977 THE BEST TIME FOR A PREPARATORY
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COMMITTEE MEETING OF ABOUT ONE WEEK IN GENEVA OR NEW YORK. THIS WOULD PERMIT AN ADDITIONAL PREPARATORY MEETING, IF NEEDED, BEFORE AUGUST/SEPTEMBER. BJORNERSTEDT CONSIDERED IT "HIGHLY DESIRABLE" THAT THE CURRENT UNGA ADOPT A PROCEDURAL RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PROVIDE THE NECESSARY SERVICES FOR THE PREPARATORY MEETING AND REVIEW CONFERENCE ITSELF.

2. AT THE MEETING, ROSHCHIN EXPRESSED STRONG PREFERENCE FOR NOT HOLDING REVIEW CONFERENCE, SAYING THERE AS "NO POLITICAL, NO JURIDICAL, NO FACTUAL REASON" FOR IT. ALLEN NOTED THAT, THOUGH UK WOULD ALSO PREFER AVOIDING EXERCISE, FCO LEGAL EXPERTS CONSIDERED THAT SINCE REVCON WAS PROVISION OF TREATY ITSELF, CONFERENCE WOULD HAVE TO BE CONVENED UPON DEMAND OF ANY PARTY. IT WAS CLEAR SOME PARTIES (E.G., YUGOSLAVIA) WOULD INSIST ON HOLDING REVIEW. ROSHCHIN SAID CONFERENCE, IF HELD, SHOULD BE EXTREMELY SHORT (HE SAID IT SHOULD NOT TAKE MORE THAN TWO DAYS) AND MINIMALLY EXPENSIVE. OTHERS AGREED THAT CONFERENCE SHOULD BE AS SHORT AS POSSIBLE.

3. THE THREE AGREED THAT AMB ALLEN SHOULD PROPOSE TO TREATY PARTIES THROUGH UNGA DELEGATIONS THAT AN INFORMAL MEETING BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 26 IN ORDER TO DISCUSS "QUESTION OF CONVENING A REVIEW CONFERENCE." ALLEN WILL CHAIR MEETING, WHICH IS TO (A) DETERMINE WHETHER PARTIES WANT REVIEW CONFERENCE, (B) INFORM THEM OF ADMINISTRATIVE ASPECTS, AND (C) SEEK AGREEMENT ON PROCEDURE FOR LAUNCHING PREPARATIONS. UK MISSION ON NOV 20 SENT NOTES TO ALL PARTIES WITH UNGA DELEGATIONS PROPOSING MEETING. (UKUN ALSO DELIVERED NOTE TO SOUTH AFRICAN MISSION, ALTHOUGH IT DOES NOT HAVE ACCREDITED UNGA DELEGATION AND PRESUMABLY WILL NOT CHOOSE TO ATTEND. REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS ALSO PARTY BUT WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND MEETING SINCE IT IS NOT A UN MEMBER.)

4. DELEGATION WOULD EXPECT TO DRAW ON POSITION CONTAINED IN GENERAL GUIDANCE REFTEL AT MEETING. IF DEPARTMENT WISHES ANY ADDITIONAL POINTS RAISED, DELEGATION WOULD APPRECIATE FURTHER GUIDANCE.

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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